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GERMAN CONCLUSION REACHED IT IS YET TO BE MADE PUBLIC

Though There Is a Strong German Chiefly Financial Sentiment in Favor of Peace, Press Comment Is More Intensely Bitter

"NEWEST VASSAL" OF GREAT BRITAIN

An Epithet Bestowed Upon the United States Whose Note Was So Timed as to Give Assistance to the Allies

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

BERLIN, April 23.—(via Copenhagen to London), April 24, 1:45 a. m.—The Imperial chancellor returned to Berlin this afternoon which would seem to justify the assumption that the empire's responsible leaders at headquarters have finished consideration of the American note and reached the decision concerning Germany's reply. What this reply will be is naturally unknown to any but the highest officials.

The chancellor's return it is understood was not expected until Tuesday hence a general decision appears to have been reached earlier than looked for. There is no intimation as to when the reply will be formulated, but there seems to be much significance in the fact that the Lokai Anzeiger, which is consistently well informed, says that "Germany's strength and prestige have so increased in the last twenty months in the eyes of the whole world that the German government has indeed, only to follow the commands of wisdom."

The obvious deduction, according to the viewpoint is that there is nothing to prevent Germany from making certain concessions, if the leaders feel that they can properly do so. Whether they do feel that they can do this far, is of course another question.

There is unquestionably a considerable peace party in Germany which includes powerful financial interests represented by the Bourse organs and the Frankfurter Zeitung and including also the Berlin Tageblatt and the socialist organs. Certain high officials, also would consent to a breach of war with the United States only most reluctantly and under pressure of what seemed to them an unavoidable necessity.

It may be noted with significance that Maximilian Harden was permitted to print a remarkable article in his paper Zukunft defending President Wilson's standpoint in plain words.

With the possible exception of a handful of extremists there appears to be nobody in Germany desirous of a break or war with the United States. It is evident however, that if the government should reject the demands of the American note respecting submarine warfare it would find the united support of Germans of all parties.

Germans of all parties, even those to whom the idea of a rupture between Germany and the United States is most distasteful agree in feeling that the government must refuse to weaken its means of warfare against Great Britain, though this should mean a breach with the United States.

A faint note of optimism is sounded by the Vorwarts, the organ of the social democratic party, but other papers speak openly of "an unavoidable break."

A striking feature in connection with the whole matter, is the fact that the press almost unanimously speaks of "Wilson's note," and only in exceptional cases, of "the American note."

Most of the papers disregard reports showing that congress is supporting President Wilson and the Post declares that Mr. Wilson "by no means has a safe majority behind him."

The Lokai Anzeiger speaks of President Wilson as "a short-sighted man, desirous of the victory of might, which will be America's greatest enemy in the future," and declares that he is "trying to place a false halo on his own head."

The Tages Leishe Rundschau surpasses even the Tages Zeitung's cynicism.

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WASHINGTON EXPECTS AN EARLY INTIMATION

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

WASHINGTON, April 23.—Germany's reply to the American note demanding the immediate abandonment of illegal and inhuman submarine warfare probably will be before President Wilson by Saturday. In the meantime, perhaps within forty-eight hours, Ambassador Gerard, at Berlin, is expected to be in a position accurately to forecast the contents of the document.

The most recent dispatches received from the ambassador were said to contain only quotations from editorials in German newspapers. The general tone of calmness displayed by the German press was noted with satisfaction. However, the editorial expressions seemed not to alter anxiety over the situation. The German ambassador, Herr von Bernstorff, was out of town. He is expected to return tomorrow, however, and during the day may call at the state department in connection with the return of papers seized in New York by agents of the department of justice from Wolfe von Igel, a former attaché of the embassy.

It is stated authoritatively that the German embassy has no more information regarding the intentions of the Berlin government than has the state department. In some diplomatic quarters the statement made in dispatches of the semi-official Overseas News Agency that Germany will act "along the lines of national dignity and respect for neutral rights and international law," is regarded as being a hopeful indication.

It is pointed out that if neutral rights and international law were strictly observed by Germany, the German navy would attempt a flight from either San Diego or Los Angeles to New York City to demonstrate an electric automatic stabilizer. He will be accompanied by A. J. Macy, a Chicago electrical engineer, and inventor of the stabilizer, bearing his name. The flight will begin about May 15 and, according to Brindley will be completed in six days with 35 hours actual flight time.

A specially constructed machine to be used on the trip is now nearing completion at a Los Angeles airplane factory. It will have a speed of 115 miles an hour, according to Brindley. Representatives of the French government it is said will officially observe the flight with the object of ascertaining the value of the electric stabilizer. The controls of the airplane will be sealed prior to the start of the flight and will not be unsealed until the aviators reach New York.

PROPOSED FLIGHT ACROSS CONTINENT
[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
SAN DIEGO, Cal., April 23.—Oscar A. Brindley, instructor at the United States army aviation school here and a daring aviator, announced today he would attempt a flight from either San Diego or Los Angeles to New York City to demonstrate an electric automatic stabilizer. He will be accompanied by A. J. Macy, a Chicago electrical engineer, and inventor of the stabilizer, bearing his name. The flight will begin about May 15 and, according to Brindley will be completed in six days with 35 hours actual flight time.

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SABBATH MEETING OF SUFFRAGISTS
[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
LOS ANGELES, April 23.—The visiting members of the Congressional Union for woman suffrage gathered in a mass meeting here today at which the purposes of the tour of the suffragists were explained. Miss Helen Todd, a member of the child labor committee of New York and one of the principal speakers at the meeting said: "You people in California cannot realize the ignorance, narrow-mindedness, prejudice and indifference which we encounter in the east."

She called on Californians for aid. Miss Lucy Burns who is acting as leader of the suffrage party, Mrs. Harriett Stanton Hatch of New York, president of the Women's Political Union, and J. H. Bailey, who was introduced as "father of woman suffrage in California" also spoke.

The visiting delegation will leave Los

on, or about 600,000 men in the fighting or in reinforcing units which suffered heavy losses.

The Germans claim the capture of French trenches in the Verdun region south of the Meuse, and west of the Meuse, while Paris records the taking of several German posts in the Avocourt woods. Hill No. 304 is again under heavy bombardment by the Germans.

Trenches taken by the Germans from the British on the Langemarck-Ypres road have been evacuated owing to floods, which made their consolidation impossible.

The Germans are still using their big guns against the Russian bridgehead on the Russian front and farther south have repulsed a Russian attack in the Lake Narocz region.

The annihilation of a German scouting party near Lake Vygonovskoye, and the destruction of an Austrian post north of Czartorysk are reported from Petrograd. Ten German aeroplanes have been shot down in the Gulf of Riga, at the entrance to the Baltic Sea.

The Italians and Austrians have fought a sanguinary engagement near the Carso front near Sile in which the Italians captured 350 metres of Austrian trenches and took a number of prisoners and a quantity of rifles and other war stores.

While the Russians report that in the Caucasus region near Aschikala, fifty miles west of Erzerum, they have captured an important sector of the Turkish position, Constantinople says that south of Bitlis, the Turks have defeated the Russians and sent them in retreat toward Bitlis.

In an engagement east of Mush, the Russians were again forced to retreat. An attempt of the Russians to debouch south of Trebizond was stopped by the Turks. Fighting is in progress between the Turks and a Russian detachment which landed on the Black Sea coast 10 miles west of Trebizond.

The British relief corps which is endeavoring to lift the siege of Kut-el-Amara have failed in further efforts to advance along the Tigris river owing to the flooded condition of the country.

RAILROAD OFFICES SWEEPED BY FLAMES

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

WASHINGTON, April 23.—A fire of unknown origin gutted the general office building of the Southern railroad here tonight.

It started on the third floor and had swept the three stories above before it was discovered. Three telegraph operators and a watchman, the only persons in the building at the time, escaped unhurt. The loss is estimated at approximately \$200,000.

The office building was six stories, a brick and stone structure with a clock-tower located at the corner of Pennsylvania avenue and Thirteenth street. It was built about twenty years ago.

Officials of the road said the most important records were in fireproof vaults on the lower floors and had escaped destruction. Although the flames made a furnace of the upper part of the building the lower floors suffered chiefly from smoke and water.

Walter Snyder, a fireman, was showered with bricks as he climbed a ladder. He was brought to the ground by comrades and taken to a hospital, badly injured. The fire, which began at about 11 p. m., was finally brought under control shortly after midnight. No damage was done to adjoining properties.

ENGLISH SOCIALISTS SPLIT ON PACIFISM

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

LONDON, April 24, 12:45 a. m.—The opening of the fifth annual conference of the British socialist party at Salford yesterday was marked by turbulent scenes resulting from the passage of a resolution to exclude the press. Thirty delegates left the conference and went to Manchester where they issued a manifesto condemning the resolution as the climax of a determined attempt to subordinate the policy of the organization to "hemionous anti-national pacifism at a time when we are engaged in a life and death struggle with German militarism and German atrocities." The Salford conference continued in secret session and issued a counter statement impugning the action of what is called the "power section."

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HEAVY BATTLES ON ALL FRONTS EXCEPT BALKAN

Conflicting Reports Come from Paris and Berlin Regarding Results of Operations in the Vicinity of Verdun

RUSSIA SUFFERED ON TWO FRONTS

Narrow Escape of Emperor Nicholas from an Austro-Hungarian Aerial Bomb; British Forced Back in Mesopotamia

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

BERLIN (via London), April 23.—German forces were compelled to evacuate newly won trenches on the Langemarck-Ypres road on account of high floods which made the consolidation of the positions impossible, according to the official statement issued today.

A hand grenade attack made by the English south of St. Eloi was repulsed. French trenches on the left bank of the Meuse, south of Haucourt and west of Dead Man's Hill were captured.

The statement follows: "Western front: We were compelled to evacuate our newly won trenches on the Langemarck-Ypres road on account of high floods, which made consolidation impossible."

"An English hand grenade attack made toward morning south of St. Eloi was repulsed. English patrols, which advanced in the night against our lines on both sides of the Haguenau-Albert high road after preparation by strong artillery fire were repulsed."

"Near Tracy, Le Val an enemy gas attack was unsuccessful."

"Clouds of gas were swept back in the direction of the French."

"On the left bank of the Meuse south of Haucourt and west of Deadman's Hill we have taken enemy trenches. On the right bank of the river in the Woivre plain and on the heights, carville fighting was continuing."

"Eastern theater: South of Narocz lake an attack by a Russian battalion was broken down before our obstructions. The enemy losses were heavy. Elsewhere, with the exception of local encounters there is nothing to report."

Turkish Operations
CONSTANTINOPLE, April 22 (via London, April 23).—The Russians have met with a check in their operations in southern Armenia according to an official statement by the Turks.

The Russians also have been defeated in a battle south of Bitlis and driven back after an engagement to the east.

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CARRANZA'S INNINGS IN THE CHASE OF VILLA THE U. S. STEPS ASIDE

Meantime American Military Status Quo in Mexico Will Be Maintained and Our Troops Will Be Re-Disposed

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

WASHINGTON, April 23.—Behind the formal announcement today that President Wilson had approved a plan for a re-disposition of the American troops in Mexico there was a plain intimation tonight that the Washington government had determined to maintain a military status quo beyond the border until the Mexican de facto government had demonstrated its ability to capture and crush Villa and his adherents and prevent repetitions of the Columbus raid.

In the interior, it is understood, the American troops will be so placed as to safeguard the border towns by policing the areas south of the line where General Carranza has been heretofore unable to check bandit operations.

Secretary Baker announced the approval of the re-disposition plan after consulting with the president today over a joint report submitted by Major General Funston and Major General Scott, chief of staff, in conference on the border. The plan has been approved by General Funston and concurred in by General Scott. The secretary announced the administration's decision as follows:

"General Funston has recommended a re-disposition of the forces in Mexico for the purpose of recuperation and pending opportunities for other co-operation with the forces of the de facto government in Mexico. The recommendation has been approved and its execution left to his discretion."

Later the secretary dictated the following: "The statement I have made indicates nothing whatever on the subject of when the American troops will be withdrawn from Mexico. The whole subject of withdrawal of the forces is under arrangement and negotiation by the state department."

It is stated positively that no additional regiments has been ordered to the border and that no such order was in contemplation. The secretary made it clear also that military officials of the government were not considering the question of withdrawing from Mexico, that matter being wholly in the hands of the state department.

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CARRANZA WELCOMED

MEXICO CITY, April 23.—Today and tonight were given over to the celebrating, celebration in honor of the visit of General Venustiano Carranza, first chief of the constitutionalists, to the City of Mexico. The celebration was the greatest in the capital since the days of the centennial.

RESURRECTION OF THE BANDIT IS REPORTED

Villa Said to Have Been Seen at the Head of a Band of 200 Followers in the Northeastern Part of Mexico

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

PRESIDIO, Tex., April 23.—A messenger has reached Ojinaga opposite here with the report that Villa is at Agua Chilli on the Vicente ranch with 200 followers. Agua Chilli is 100 miles south of Ojinaga in the Camargo district. One hundred and fifty Carranzistas are encamped on the Conchos river about four miles from Ojinaga. The report that the Ojinaga garrison had been reinforced is denied by the commander of the garrison, who made his denial to military authorities here.

There has been no explanation of the presence of